



City of McKinney Reforestation Plan

I. Purpose

The purpose of the Reforestation Plan is to protect, sustain, and enhance the natural landscapes that contribute to McKinney's quality of life, environmental health, and economic vitality.

When development activities result in the removal of protected trees and replacement trees cannot be planted, Section 405G, "Tree Replacement Payment," of the City's Unified Development Code ("UDC") requires payment to the Reforestation Fund. Section 407 "Reforestation Plan" of the UDC governs how these funds may be used to contribute to McKinney's urban forest.

This Reforestation Plan establishes the programs and initiatives eligible for funding through the Reforestation Fund and outlines the administrative responsibilities necessary to ensure proper management and stewardship of those funds.

II. Definitions

1. **Capital Improvement Program ("CIP")** means a program of the City of McKinney responsible for constructing capital assets.
2. **Diameter at Breast Height ("DBH")** means a tree trunk diameter measured in inches at a height of 4 feet 6 inches above the ground.
3. **Director of Engineering** means the City official designated to oversee the operation of the Engineering Department, or their designee.
4. **Director of Parks and Recreation** means the City official designated to oversee the operation of the Parks and Recreation Department, or their designee.
5. **Director of Planning** means the City official designated to oversee the operation of the Planning Department, or their designee.
6. **Quality Tree** means any tree species identified on the UDC's Quality Tree List (Section 402D).
7. **Reforestation Fund** means the fund from which the initiatives in the Reforestation Plan are funded, as authorized by Section 407 of the UDC.
8. **Unified Development Code ("UDC")** means Chapter 150 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of McKinney.
9. **Right-of-Way (ROW)** means land dedicated to or owned by the City of McKinney, or in which the City holds an easement or other legal interest, for public use as a street,

alley, sidewalk, parkway, or utility corridor, including the area between the street pavement and the adjacent property line.

III. Reforestation Fund Management

1. Fund Management.
 - a. The Director of Planning shall track and regulate all the deposits and disbursements from the fund and shall report an accounting of the deposits and disbursements to the City Council annually.
2. Fund Payment Reimbursements.
 - a. Funds paid into the Reforestation Fund shall be spent within ten (10) years of payment or shall be returned to the payer.
3. Fund Limitations.
 - a. Reforestation funds shall only be expended on the Reforestation Plan's initiatives.

IV. Reforestation Plan Initiatives

1. Tree Planting Program (Public Property)

The trees referenced in this section are trees planted on City-owned property, using monies from the Reforestation Fund. Requirements for the location, purchase, planting, maintenance, and irrigation of said trees are detailed below:

- a. Location. Trees shall be planted in the City of McKinney on properties with an acceptable irrigation system available, subject to approval by the Director of Planning. These properties include, but are not limited to, public ROW, park properties, and other City-owned properties. The Director of Planning shall have the authority to grant approval of tree plantings where needed, as long as those plantings occur on City-owned property.
- b. Purchase. The Director of Planning shall be responsible for the purchase of trees planted as part of this program.
- c. Planting. The Director of Planning shall coordinate the placement and planting of all replacement trees on public property with the Director of Parks and Recreation or the Director of the department responsible for the property on which the plantings will occur. The planting of all trees regardless of location shall be conducted in accordance with the standard tree planting standards of the Tree Care Industry Association.
- d. Maintenance. The maintenance of all trees on public property shall be conducted in accordance with the standard maintenance practices of the Parks and Recreation Department.
- e. Irrigation. When necessary, the irrigation of replacement trees on public property shall be conducted in accordance with the standard irrigation practices of the Parks and Recreation Department, and in accordance with City regulations. If a tree is to be planted on a property that does not have an acceptable irrigation system, an irrigation system shall be installed. In situations where the installation of an irrigation system is not feasible, the Director of Parks and Recreation may approve

other irrigation solutions including but not limited to hand watering and the installation of slow-watering bags.

2. Replacement Tree Program (CIP Projects)

Replacement trees, as referenced herein, are trees planted on privately-owned property or City-owned property to replace quality trees that are critically altered as part of a CIP project. Requirements for the location, purchase, planting, maintenance, and irrigation of replacement trees purchased with monies from the Reforestation Fund are detailed below:

- a. Applicability. This tree replacement program applies to City-owned properties and privately-owned properties where a quality tree with a caliper size (DBH) of 6 inches or greater was critically altered by a McKinney CIP project.
- b. Expenditures.
 - i. The Director of Engineering, in coordination with the Director of Planning, shall be responsible for the purchase and planting of replacement trees.
 - ii. When plantings are on private property, a voucher will be provided to the property owner for the approved size of quality tree(s) and associated installation.
 - iii. In lieu of planting a replacement tree(s) on privately-owned property, the Director of Engineering, in coordination with the Director of Planning, may elect to pay the property owner an amount equal to the cost of purchasing and installing the replacement tree(s). For payments in lieu of planting a replacement tree, payments to a property owner shall not exceed \$1,400, unless approved by the City Council.
 - iv. No more than \$50,000 may be spent on this program each fiscal year, unless approved by the City Council. In any case, no more than the current unencumbered Reforestation Fund balance may be approved or spent.
- c. Replacement Schedule.
 - i. When replacing a critically altered quality tree within the ROW (Parkways) and/or on privately-owned property, the following sizing table shall apply:

Critically Altered Quality Tree Size (DBH)	Replacement Tree Size (Canopy Tree)
6" - 16"	4"
>16"	6"

- ii. The City Council may approve deviations from this replacement size table.
- d. Planting.
 - i. The planting of all replacement trees, regardless of location, shall be conducted in accordance with the standard tree planting standards of the Tree Care Industry Association.
 - ii. Any trees planted on private property must be located in the front yard between the ROW and the front façade of the primary structure.

- iii. In spaces where a replacement canopy tree cannot be reasonably planted on private property, as determined by a licensed arborist, landscape architect, or urban forester, a smaller ornamental tree may be planted instead.
- iv. The City Council may approve deviations from this replacement size table
- e. Maintenance. The maintenance of all replacement trees on public property shall be conducted in accordance with the standard maintenance practices of the Parks and Recreation Department. Maintenance of replacement trees on private property is the responsibility of the property owner. Replacement trees planted in the parkway portion of a public ROW shall be maintained by the adjacent property owner. Any trees planted in medians shall be maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- f. Irrigation. When necessary, the irrigation of replacement trees on public property shall be conducted in accordance with the Parks and Recreation Department's standard irrigation practices and City regulations. If a replacement tree is to be planted on a property without an acceptable irrigation system, an irrigation system shall be installed. In situations where the installation of an irrigation system is not feasible, the Director of Planning may approve other irrigation solutions including but not limited to hand watering and the installation of slow-watering bags. This program will not cover the cost of irrigation installation on private property.

3. Urban Canopy Enhancement Program

Trees, regardless of where they are planted in the City of McKinney, have numerous positive impacts on the community. As such, efforts under this program shall focus on understanding more about McKinney's urban forest; educating residents, property owners, and business owners about the benefits of trees; and providing opportunities for members of the public to support and participate in the growth of McKinney's urban forest. Under this program, funds from the Reforestation Fund may be utilized for:

- a. Research. The Director of Planning may conduct studies and research to better understand, preserve, and expand McKinney's urban forest while reducing urban heat islands and improving the overall quality of life.
- b. Education. The Director of Planning may produce educational materials and facilitate educational programs that help educate citizens of McKinney about the benefits of trees and what people can do to help preserve and expand McKinney's urban forest.
- c. Tree Planting. The Director of Planning may facilitate programs that afford McKinney property owners opportunities to contribute to the expansion of McKinney's urban forest through the planting of trees on private property or by partnering with other City of McKinney departments to plant trees on public property.